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supported by stanchions at intervals of not more than 7 feet. Stanchions must be through bolted or welded to the deck.

(b) Rails or lifelines must consist of evenly spaced courses. The spacing between courses must not be greater than 12 inches. The opening below the lowest course must not be more than 9 inches. Lower rail courses are not required where all or part of the space below the upper rail is fitted with a bulwark, chain link fencing, wire mesh, or an equivalent.

(c) Small vessels of the open type and vessels of unusual construction must have rails or equivalent protection as considered necessary by the Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection.

§ 169.329 Storm rails.

Suitable storm rails or hand grabs must be installed where necessary in all passageways, at deckhouse sides, and at ladders and hatches where persons might have normal access.

§ 169.331 Guards in hazardous locations.

Each exposed hazard, such as gears or machinery, must be properly protected with covers, guards, or rails.

Subpart 169.400—Watertight Integrity, Subdivision, and Stability

§ 169.401 Applicability.

Each vessel must meet the applicable requirements in Subchapter S, parts 170–174, of this chapter.

Subpart 169.500—Lifesaving and Firefighting Equipment

LIFESAVING EQUIPMENT—GENERAL

§ 169.505 Equipment installed but not required.

Each item of lifesaving equipment installed on board a vessel must be of an approved type.

§ 169.507 Responsibility of master.

The master or operator shall ensure that the lifeboats, liferafts, davits, falls, personal flotation devices, and other lifesaving appliances are at all times ready for use, and that all equip-

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ment required by the regulations in this subchapter is provided, maintained, serviced, and replaced as indicated.

§ 169.509 Approval for repairs and alterations.

No extensive repairs or alterations, except in an emergency, may be made to any item of lifesaving equipment without advance notice to the Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection. Repairs and alterations must be made to the original standard of construction and tested in the manner specified in this subpart and applicable requirements in Subchapter Q of this chapter. Emergency repairs or alterations must be reported as soon as practicable to the nearest Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection.

PRIMARY LIFESAVING EQUIPMENT

§ 169.513 Types of primary equipment.

(a) *Lifeboats*. Each lifeboat must be of a type approved under subpart 160.035 of this chapter. Installation and arrangement of each lifeboat including davits and winches must meet the requirements of part 94 of this chapter.

(b) *Inflatable liferafts*. (1) Each inflatable liferaft must be a SOLAS A inflatable liferaft approved under part 160, subpart 160.151, of this chapter, except that inflatable liferafts on vessels operating on protected or partially protected waters may be SOLAS B inflatable liferafts approved under part 160, subpart 160.151, of this chapter.

(2) Each approved inflatable liferaft on the vessel on September 30, 2002, may be used to meet the requirements of this part as long as it is continued in use on the vessel, and is in good and serviceable condition.

(c) *Life floats*. Each life float must be of a type approved under subpart 160.027 of this subchapter.

[CGD 83–005, 51 FR 896, Jan. 9, 1986, as amended by USCG–2001–11118, 67 FR 58541, Sept. 17, 2002]

§ 169.515 Number required.

(a) Except as provided in paragraph (c) of this section, each vessel must have sufficient lifeboats or inflatable liferafts to accommodate all persons on board.